

**Park Point Small Area Plan
Plan Committee Meeting
February 27, 2013 - 5:00 p.m.
Lafayette Community Recreation Club**

Participants

John Judd, City of Duluth Planning
John Kelley, City of Duluth Planning
Heather Rand, City of Duluth Planning Commission
Thomas Beery, Parks & Recreation Commission
Dawn Buck, Resident
Jan Karon, Resident
Deb Kellner, Resident
Sally Raushenfels, Resident
Phil Rolle, Resident

Guests

Neil Dorr
Andy McDonald

1. Plan Committee Q & A Updates

Kelley presented responses to committee member questions from the previous meeting. Goldfine asked about the proposed hotels on Park Point and was concerned with the flushing of swimming pools and the potential water flow issues it may create to existing infrastructure. Kelley stated that City Engineering reviewed water/waste water reports provided by the developers and were ok with their proposals. Goldfine asked for clarification on this issue. A discussion followed about the water and wastewater data that the committee is requesting. Kelley and Judd explained that the data is being compiled and will be put into a format that can be understood. Kelley updated the committee members on traffic count information. The committee discussed the traffic counts and the term Annual Average Daily Trips (AADT). Karon was concerned with the use of the term annual and wanted clarification on traffic counts and why peak time traffic counts are not compiled. Kelley and Judd stated that the counts are taken in June and July every 4 years at a minimum. McDonald discussed the Minnesota Department of Transportation's method of compiling traffic count information. Rolle would like clarification on the traffic that will be generated by the hotels. McDonald said that traffic trip generation should have been looked at during the hotels review process. Karon suggested the counts be taken in August as well. Beery stated he liked having the annual counts and thought that ped and bike counts should be compiled at the same time. A discussion followed on traffic, bike and ped counts. Raushenfels is concerned with congestion and traffic backups do to the timing of the lift bridge.

2. Transportation Related Items

Kelley discussed Street improvement options starting with the concept of directing traffic off of Lake Avenue onto Minnesota Avenue at 8th Street. The committee members discussed this as a preferred option but wanted more understanding of the type of turn off and what the benefits were for doing so. McDonald stated that this would divert traffic intended for the proposed hotels and potential commercial development off of Lake Avenue. McDonald noted that it would add value to the neighborhood and assist in getting Minnesota Avenue upgraded. Kellner asked if the roads could become one-way

and narrowed to make them safer and a more inviting roadway. Goldfine suggested that homeowners that may be impacted or have their property acquired to allow for a new turnoff closer to the bridge, consider trading their property for another piece of City owned property on park point . A discussion followed regarding the type of turn that could be considered. McDonald stated that this concept would allow the rejoining of the Tot Lot with Franklin Park. McDonald stated that potential improvements to the Streets would require an exception to road standards as the streets are state aid roads. McDonald also said not to consider widening any streets as this will cause speeds to increase. Judd stated the streets, such as Minnesota Ave., if improved, need to be constructed to complete street status, which includes sidewalks on both sides. McDonald stated that traffic calming techniques need to be applied to the streets to alert people approaching street crossings and bike and ped traffic. The committee discussed dimensional options for driving lane width, parking lane and bike lane. Kelley and McDonald will work together on options and write a summary to go with each. Karon asked about a roundabout and McDonald stated it will not work on Park Point as there is only one street that it would service. McDonald stated that sidewalk improvements for Park Point noted in the sidewalk inventory should be added to the list of options/recommendations. The committee would like to see the options listed as short and long term goals.

3. Plan Committee Meeting and Public Meeting Schedule

The committee discussed revising the meeting schedule as follows:

- Next Plan Committee meeting to be on Wednesday March 6th, 2013.
- Plan Committee meeting to continue of 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (March 6th and March 20th)
- Public meeting scheduled for Wednesday March 27th, 2013

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with thanks to all for their participation. Notice of future meetings will be provided.